



**BROOKLYN  
FRIENDS  
SCHOOL**

March 11, 2020

Dear Lower School Families:

Yesterday and today, Lower School colleagues have been working with great care and intentionality as we finalize our plans for remote learning.

Tomorrow, your child's teachers will be sharing remote learning plans through their Classroom Post. Please expect to receive this post via email at 8:30 a.m. You will find assignments for this Thursday and Friday, instructions, and a recorded message from your child's teachers which is intended for your child to view. The post will also include websites, games, activities, and educational links that can be accessed from home. Our specialist teachers have also contributed interesting and enriching ways for children to stay connected and engaged.

We will be on spring break March 16 - March 27. Should remote learning continue after the break, your child's teachers will send you additional plans on March 30.

As I noted to you in my last communication, we have designed activities and learning that children can engage in at home with a primary focus on practicing literacy and math skills. First and Second grade teachers have shared the passwords for Raz Kids.

Families will need access to the internet or will need to use data to read and view messages from teachers and/or access a link; however, we do not intend, nor encourage long periods of screen time. We have designed our assignments to be age-appropriate and largely hands-on. Your child will need to be supported by an adult to read directions or gather simple materials (paper, pencil, deck of cards, dice). Depending on the age of your child, you may need to engage with your child in activities that require a partner or closer adult supervision. Some of your teachers have shared links and websites that your child will likely need assistance accessing. An adult should always be present whenever children work online, view youtube videos, and the like.

Please keep in mind that your child will need frequent breaks. Kindergarten and first grade children will be able to engage in an activity for 10-15 minutes and then will likely need to stretch or eat a snack. Older children will be able to sustain their attention for 20-30 minutes. We do not expect that your child will necessarily be able to complete every activity we have designed, and yet some children will. Children may want to repeat an activity multiple times or extend an activity! We do expect that learning will look different

in each home as we all navigate a new schedule and differing needs of various family members.

Your child's teachers and specialty teachers will be available through email to answer questions that you or your child might have on Thursday and Friday during regular instructional hours, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Your child might also like to share an imaginative piece of artwork, letter, haiku... We will be delighted to receive it virtually.

As we do our best to support our young learners through our learning plans and resources, please remember, time spent curling up with a good book, listening to a story, journaling, drawing, playing a good old-fashioned board game, or engaging in imaginative play will add to meaningful distance learning.

We recognize as well that this is a highly unusual, and for many, a stressful time. Our children will turn to us for guidance and support. We will continue to post resources for families on our BFS website. You might find this resource, [Childmind Resource](#) on how to talk to kids about Coronavirus, particularly helpful.

Thank you for your grace and compassion as we work through this extraordinary time together.

In friendship,

Jacquelyn Condie  
Head of Lower School